128. Needs of the Parur Municipal town.

Mr. R. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Parur*): said that the needs of the municipal town had been represented several imes at the Assembly but most of them had not been taken up even or consideration by the Government. The needs urged at the previous session should therefore be taken up for early consideration. He would also mention certain additional needs of his taluk.

The lane running west of the Mar Thoma Church at Paravuttara should be extended up to the southern gate of the market. This was very largely used by the people of Kottuvalli, Kaitaram, Ezhikkara, Kidamangalam and other places. The length of the extension was only 12 furlongs and the extension would save the people a distance of 1 mile for going to the market.

The western portion of the lane from the main road to the north of the Tonniyakavu temple should be levelled. This was an extension of the road running west from Peruvaram and was a short cut from Karumallur, Paravuttara and other places to Kidamangalam, Nandyattukunnam, Ezhikkara and other places. The western portion of the lane was under water, 2 to 3 feet deep, during rainy weather and was then inconvenient for traffic. This portion should be levelled. The total length was only 1½ furlongs. The adjoining land-owners were prepared to supply the earth required for the purpose.

The Peruvaram-Mannam road was much frequented by people going to the temples at Mannam and Peruvaram. Hundreds of people assembled at the annual festivals in these temples. Portions on both the sides of the bridge on this road were breached causing much inconvenience to the pedestrians. These should be closed.

Another need was the appointment of a Resident Medical Officer at the Parur District Hospital. This was urged at the last session also. The Medical Officers of the hospital did not reside near it and they were not bound to do so, with the result that the people found it difficult to have medical aid in times of emergency and out of hospital hours. The inpatients also were put to much hardship on this account. The number of patients in the hospital was more than the number in the Alleppey and Kottayam District Hospitals, where there were Resident Medical Officers. One such officer should be appointed at Parur also. A contagious diseases ward, a pay-ward and an isolation ward should also be opened in the hospital. Due to the want of a pay-ward and adequate convenience, many respectable patients were not resorting to the hospital and consequently could not have timely and satisfactory medical aid. It was regrettable that the Government had decided that a pay-ward was not necessary. The decision should be reconsidered and a pay-ward opened in the hospital.

The award of a grant to the Parur Municipality had also been refused by the Government. This Municipality was in receipt of a grant and in point of finance it occupied only the 14th rank among the 19

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Municipalities of the State. Owing to want of funds many urgent public works could not be attended to by the Municipality. The decision of the Government in this respect also should be reconsidered and the grant revived.

A public playground was a desideratum in Parur town. Playgrounds were necessary in the interests of the health of the youths. There were playgrounds in all important towns of the State. A playground should be provided in Parur also.

Lastly, additional accommodation should be provided for the Town primary school and its premises extended. The existing school building could accommodate only 180 pupils while the actual strength was 400. This was likely to increase next year. The need for additional accommodation had already been realised by the Educational authorities, but the matter had been allowed to wait on account of financial stringency. This was a matter that could not be put off. The necessary provision should therefore be made in the next year's budget.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Of the three roads you mentioned, Mr. Padmanabha Pillai, reports will be called for in regard to the extension of the lane west of the new Mar Thoma Church and the levelling of the western portion of the lane to the north of the Torniyakavu temple.

The closing of breaches on the Peruvaram—Mannam road will be attended to soon.

In regard to medical aid, you mentioned the same subject last year, and Government have decided that a Resident Medical Officer and a payward are not necessary. If you still consider that they are necessary, the matter would be examined. A site has been selected for a contagious diseases ward, and the building will be constructed when funds are available.

It is the policy of Government not to give grants to a Municipality which has a closing balance of more than Rs. 1,000. This year, your Council had an opening balance of Rs. 1,363.

The question of a playground will be enquired into.

The provision of additional accommodation for the local primary school and the extension of its premises are being enquired into.

MEMBER : That has already been enquired into and found necessary.

DEWAN : The Director now tells me that it has been enquired into and found necessary. But, it is only one of very many needs, and so it will have to take its turn and should wait for funds.

MEMBER : That will need only a small amount compared with other needs.

DEWAN : That again, applies to a good many. You had better speak on the matter to the Inspector.

MEMBER: The Inspector has been reporting about its necessity.

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DEWAN: Yes, the necessity is admitted, the point is to find money.

129. Needs of the Parur taluk.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Parur taluk*): said that Parur taluk was very backward in means of communication, there being only a total length of 37 miles of road while the area of the taluk was 113·43 square miles. The progress of any place depended on the facilities of communication; and the want of means of communication in the taluk was a bar to its natural development. The question of improving the means of communication in the taluk should therefore engage the earnest attention of the Government. The following roads were among the urgent public works of the taluk :—

(*1*) *The Parur-Kuriyapalli road.* The need for making this road fit for traffic had been pressed at successive sessions of the Assembly. As a village road, it was badly maintained. During rainy weather, people, especially school-going children, were undergoing great hardship in using this road. Provision had been made in the budget for 1105 for this road, but the work was not commenced and the amount lapsed. The work should not be put off further.

(*2*) *The Munambam road.* This was a road taking off from the Parur—Kuriyapilli road. All the culverts and bridges on this road were badly damaged and unfit for traffic. This road also should be improved at an early date.

(*3*) *The Edapalli—Arakkalkadavu road.* The total length of this road was only 21 furlongs and the land required for it had been surrendered by the people. The portion of this road falling within the Cochin State had already been opened. The portion falling within this State also should be completed.

(*4*) *The Ezhikkara—Kadakkara road.* The people of Kadakkara had no proper access to the Parur road. They were using the bunds of the Pokkalipadam as a pathway. But these were under water during part of the year and the people were put to much inconvenience. This road was absolutely necessary and should be opened. If a cart road could not be opened, at least a village road should be constructed at an early date.

(*5*) *The Parur—Kaitaram road* was another road urgently required. There was a sandy pathway in the place but it was unfit for traffic. Its total length was only 3 miles. It should be made into a road fit for traffic.

(*6*) *The Alwaye College—Tirumuppam road.* This was a village road not fit for cart traffic. In some places it was wide enough for a crat road and in others, it was not and the people were willing to surrender he lands recquired. Thisroad should be made fit for cart traffic.

(*7*) *The Parur-Chakkarakadavu road.* This was an incomplete road and should be completed without delay. The money already spent would be a waste if the road was not completed early.

(*8*) *The Kottapuram,—Koonammavu road.* The total length of this road was only 3½ miles of which a length of 1 mile was fit for cart

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